

MUSICLISTINGS

THURSDAY 5/17  
AXE & FIDDLE Mother Island—8:30pm; n/c  
B&B LOUNGE Karaoke—9:30pm; n/c  
THE BARNLIGHT Karaoke w/ Breezy Bee—9pm; n/c  
BEERGARDEN. Gumbo Groove—7:30pm; n/c  
COWFISH '90s Night!—9pm; n/c

CUSH CAFE San Francisco Sound Test Psychedelic Improvisation Music Jam—7pm; \$2-\$3 don.  
DEXTER LAKE CLUB Karaoke w/ Jared—9pm; n/c  
HAPPY HOURS Crystal Harmony Karaoke—8pm; n/c  
HI-FI MUSIC HALL The Main Squeeze—8-11:30pm; \$4-\$30  
LUCKEY'S Grateful Dead Family Jam—9pm; Dead covers, \$3  
MAC'S Thirsty Thursdays, ft. Skip Jones & Peter Giri Variety Show—6pm; n/c

MAX'S DJ Victor—10pm; hits, old standards, requests, n/c  
MCSHANE'S BAR & GRILL Acoustic Underground Open Mic—7:30pm; n/c  
MULLIGAN'S PUB Karaoke—9pm; n/c  
OLD NICK'S Exits, The Central, Ozdottir & Pacifico—9pm; \$5  
OVERTIME BAR & GRILL Westside Blues Jam w/Dave Roberts—7pm; n/c  
SAM BOND'S BREWING Kory Quinn—7-9pm; n/c

SAM BOND'S GARAGE Kidz Rock! w/ McKayla Web, The Succulent Clones & The Dad Bandits—6pm; n/c. Grrrlz Rock: Susia, The Sauce, Bajuana Tea & The Negative Creeps—9pm; \$5  
SEASONS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Sassy Patty—8pm; n/c  
WHIRLED PIES Object Heavy—9:30pm; \$8-\$10  
WILDCRAFT CIDER WORKS World's Finest—8pm; \$12  
WOW HALL Poor Man's Whiskey w/ Steel Wool—7pm; \$15-\$18  
FRIDAY 5/18  
AXE & FIDDLE Jobe Woosley—8:30pm; n/c  
BILLY MAC'S Christie & McCallum—7:30pm; n/c

BLAIRALLY Church of the '80s Night—9:30pm; DJ, \$3  
BOARD Robert Blair—8-11pm; n/c  
BREWSTATION Sugar Pine String Band—7:30pm; n/c  
BRONCO SALOON Karaoke w/ Lindsey—9pm; n/c  
COWFISH Freek-Nite w/SPOC-3PO—9pm; \$3  
DOC'S PAD Karaoke w/KJ Power—9pm; n/c  
THE DRAKE Dancing—10pm; n/c  
DRIFTWOOD BAR Karaoke w/ Slick Nick—9pm; n/c  
EL TAPATIO CANTINA Karaoke w/ KJ Rick—9pm; n/c  
EMBERS Rock'n Rewind—9pm; n/c  
FRIENDLY ST. MARKET Sean

Gill—6pm; n/c  
HI-FI LOUNGE Pickwick w/ Smokey Brights—10pm; \$4-\$30  
JAZZ STATION UO Combos: Early Bird Special Show—5pm; n/c. UO Jazz Combos—7:30-10pm; \$10  
JERSEY'S Karaoke contest w/ Sassy Patty—8:30pm; n/c  
MAC'S Stan & Jerry Extravabandza—8pm; \$6  
MATT KNIGHT ARENA Chris Young w/ Kane Brown & Morgan Evans—7:30pm; \$40-\$60  
MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK RESTAURANT Arabesque w/ belly-dancing—7-9pm; \$1  
MOE'S Barbara Dzuro Jazz Duo piano/bass—6pm; n/c  
O BAR Karaoke w/Jared—9pm; n/c

FLOWER POWER (POP)

The Posies come to Eugene behind classic album reissues

Ken Stringfellow says the music of his band **The Posies** — melodic and dreamy — went against the prevailing winds of the Seattle music scene of the late '80s and early '90s. That was a scene dominated by acts like Mother Love Bone, Pearl Jam and Soundgarden, artists who would go on to define the heavier grunge sound poised to take the world by storm.

Now, The Posies are preparing expanded CD and vinyl reissues of three of their almost-hit, cult classic albums, *Dear 23*, *Frosting on the Beater* and *Amazing Disgrace*. An accompanying world tour, featuring an early lineup of the bands, stops in Eugene, May 20, at WOW Hall. In truth, The Posies never stopped putting out records, with their latest, *Solid States*, coming out in 2016.

The reissues and tour aren't so much a victory lap, Stringfellow says, but a "celebration of a long career that was earned with hard work. We are here because we love being here." Early on, Stringfellow continues, "we were proud of our work but never secure in it. Now we're very confident."

It's a tremendous honor, Stringfellow feels, to have these reissues come out on Omnivore Records, LA-based anthologizers of almost-forgotten classics, including works from other power pop artists like Alex Chilton and Steve Wynn. "They keep

music alive," he says. Omnivore knows "there's a story around these albums."

Founded in Bellingham, Washington, The Posies moved to Seattle because, as a teenager in Bellingham, Seattle was just "where you go. We were a little naïve," Stringfellow recalls. Like a lot of Seattle bands, he says, The Posies were informed by punk and metal, but asked, "What if we could take the songwriting craft of the old days and blend it with punk?" This tapped The Posies into a rich vein of rock music called power pop.

Power pop is commonly defined by high-energy rock with major scales and two-part harmony. "That could be The Beatles," Stringfellow says. "But the greatest power pop band of all time is The Ramones." One of The Posies' best known tunes, "Dream All Day," off 1993's *Frosting on the Beater*, is a sweetly punchy rock 'n' roll ode to the art of daydreaming, featuring Stringfellow's classic tenor, tight harmonies and power chords, turned up to a grunge-worthy volume, over battering percussion.

Stringfellow's first real concert was, amazingly, The Clash opening for The Who. "That kind of wild abandon was very appealing to me," Stringfellow recalls, and playing punk music made Stringfellow realize "that kind of energy was available to everyone."

Despite not quite fitting into the Seattle sound of their era, Stringfellow feels Northwest music has come around to what The Posies were trying to do. "Bookish, melodic, dreamy" Stringfellow says, mentioning bands like Band of Horses and Death Cab For Cutie. "What didn't make sense then has become the prevailing winds of Northwest music." — Will Kennedy

The Posies play with Terra Lightfoot 9 pm Monday, May 20, at WOW Hall; \$20 advance, \$23 door, 21-plus.

